

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
~~receiving a reference image and a first image, the first image having a perimeter having a first shape;~~
~~determining a relative position of the first image and the reference image;~~
~~using the first image, the reference image, and the relative position to generate a first corrected image having less perspective distortion relative to the reference image than the first image has, the first corrected image having a perimeter having a first corrected shape different from the first shape;~~
~~using the first corrected shape to determine~~~~determining a focal length and rotation angles~~
~~an orientation of a camera associated with a~~~~the first image based on a shape of a perimeter of a~~~~corrected version of the first image, wherein the corrected version of the first image has less~~
~~perspective distortion relative to a reference image than the first image and the shape of the~~
~~perimeter of the corrected version of the first image is different from the shape of the perimeter~~
~~of the first image;~~ and
projecting the first image on a surface based on the ~~orientation~~~~focal length and rotation~~
~~angles~~ of the camera associated with the first image.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
projecting the reference image on the surface.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 further comprising:
merging the projected reference image and the projected first image to form a panoramic image.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 further comprising:
projecting a three-dimensional object onto the surface;
merging the projected three-dimensional object, the reference image and the first image to form a panoramic image.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the surface is cylindrical.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the surface is spherical.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the surface is planar.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a second image, the second image having a perimeter having a second shape;
determining a relative position of the second image and the reference image;
using the second image, the reference image, and the relative position to generate a
second corrected image having less perspective distortion relative to the reference image than the
second image has, the second corrected image having a perimeter having a second corrected
shape different from the second shape;
using the second corrected shape to determine determining an orientation a focal length
and rotation angles of a camera associated with a the second image based on a shape of a
perimeter of a corrected version of the second image, wherein the corrected version of the second
image has less perspective distortion relative to the reference image than the first image; and
projecting the second image on the surface based on the orientation focal length and
rotation angles of the camera associated with the second image.

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10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein determining the focal length and rotation angles further comprises:

selecting initial values for the orientation-rotation angles and the focal length; and

improving the accuracy of the selected values of the orientation-rotation angles and the focal length by:

estimating the-a shape of the perimeter of the corrected version of the first image based on the selected values of the orientation-rotation angles and the focal length;

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comparing the estimated shape and the actual shape of the perimeter of the corrected version of the first image;

adjusting the selected values of the orientation-rotation angles and the focal length based on a difference between the estimated shape and the actual shape of the perimeter of the corrected version of the first image.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein improving the accuracy of the selected values of the orientation-rotation angles and the focal length further comprises:

computing a difference between the selected values of the orientation-rotation angles and the focal length with the adjusted values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length;

if the computed difference is below a threshold value:

determining that the adjusted values of the rotation angles orientation and the adjusted value of the focal length are the actual rotation angles orientation and the actual focal length;

otherwise, if the computed difference is not below the threshold value:

selecting the adjusted values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length as the values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length; and

repeating the step of improving the accuracy of the selected values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the initial value of the rotation angles orientation is selected to be an rotation angles orientation of a camera associated with the reference image.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the rotation angles orientation of the camera associated with the first image is measured relative to an rotation angles orientation of a camera associated with the reference image.

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14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the initial value of the focal length is selected based on a measurement of the first image.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the selected initial value of the focal length is the sum of a length and a width of the image.

16. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein a Newton's iteration is used to adjust the initial values of the rotation angle and the focal length.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the reference image is an image of a reference segment of a view and the first image is an image of a first segment of the view that overlaps the reference segment of the view, the method further comprising:

correcting for perspective distortion in the first image relative to the reference image to generate the corrected version of the first image.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising:

determining a position offset of the first segment of the view relative to the reference segment of the view, wherein correcting for perspective distortion is based on the determined position offset

20. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the perimeter of the first image includes at least a first reference point and a second reference point and correcting for perspective distortion alters the shape of the perimeter of the first image by moving the first reference point relative to the second reference point.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the first and second reference points are vertices defined by the shape of the perimeter of the first image.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the shape of the perimeter of the first image is rectangular and correcting for perspective distortion alters the shape of the perimeter of the first image into a trapezoid.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the orientation focal length and rotation angles is further based on the shape of the perimeter of the first image.

24. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the perimeter of the first image has the same shape as the perimeter of the reference image.

25. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium on which are tangibly stored machine-executable instructions, the stored instructions being operable to cause a machine to:

receive a reference image and a first image, the first image having a perimeter having a first shape;

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determine a relative position of the first image and the reference image;

use the first image, the reference image, and the relative position to generate a first corrected image having less perspective distortion relative to the reference image than the first image has, the first corrected image having a perimeter having a first corrected shape different from the first shape;

use the first corrected shape to determine a focal length and rotation angles ~~an orientation~~ of a camera associated with ~~a~~the first image ~~based on a shape of a perimeter of a corrected version of the first image, wherein the corrected version of the first image has less perspective distortion relative to a reference image than the first image and the shape of the perimeter of the corrected version of the first image is different from the shape of the perimeter of the first image;~~ and

project the first image on a surface based on the orientation-focal length and the rotation angles of the camera associated with the first image.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Original) The article of claim 25 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:
project the reference image on the surface.

28. (Original) The article of claim 27 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:
merge the projected reference image and the projected first image to form a panoramic image.

29. (Original) The article of claim 27 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:
project a three-dimensional object onto the surface;
merge the projected three-dimensional object, the reference image and the first image to
form a panoramic image.

30. (Original) The article of claim 25 wherein the surface is cylindrical.

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31. (Original) The article of claim 25 wherein the surface is spherical.

32. (Original) The article of claim 25 wherein the surface is planar.

33. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 25, wherein the instructions further cause the
machine to:

receive a second image, the second image having a perimeter having a second shape;
determine a relative position of the second image and the reference image;
use the second image, the reference image, and the relative position to generate a second
corrected image having less perspective distortion relative to the reference image than the second
image has, the second corrected image having a perimeter having a second corrected shape
different from the second shape;

use the second corrected shape to determine an a focal length and rotation angles
orientation of a camera associated with a the second image based on a shape of a perimeter of a
corrected version of the second image, wherein the corrected version of the second image has
less perspective distortion relative to the reference image than the first image; and
project the second image on the surface based on the orientation focal length and rotation
angles of the camera associated with the second image.

34. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 2625, wherein determining the focal length and rotation angles further comprises:

selecting initial values for the rotation angles orientation and the focal length; and

improving the accuracy of the selected values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length by:

estimating the a shape of the perimeter of the corrected version of the first image based on the selected values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length;

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comparing the estimated shape and the actual shape of the perimeter of the corrected version of the first image;

adjusting the selected values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length based on a difference between the estimated shape and the actual shape of the perimeter of the corrected version of the first image.

35. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 34, wherein improving the accuracy of the selected values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length further comprises:

computing a difference between the selected values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length with the adjusted values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length;

if the computed difference is below a threshold value:

determining that the adjusted values of the rotation angles orientation and the adjusted value of the focal length are the actual rotation angles orientation and the actual focal length;

otherwise, if the computed difference is not below the threshold value:

selecting the adjusted values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length as the values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length; and

repeating the step of improving the accuracy of the selected values of the rotation angles orientation and the focal length.

36. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 34, wherein the initial value of the rotation angles orientation is selected to be an rotation angles orientation of a camera associated with the reference image.

37. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 25, wherein the rotation angles orientation of the camera associated with the first image is measured relative to an rotation angles orientation of a camera associated with the reference image.

BD 38. (Original) The article of claim 34 wherein the initial value of the focal length is selected based on a measurement of the first image.
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39. (Original) The article of claim 38 wherein the selected initial value of the focal length is the sum of a length and a width of the image.

40. (Original) The article of claim 34 wherein a Newton's iteration is used to adjust the initial values of the rotation angle and the focal length.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Original) The article of claim 25 wherein the reference image is an image of a reference segment of a view and the first image is an image of a first segment of the view that overlaps the reference segment of the view, the instructions further causing the processor to:

correct for perspective distortion in the first image relative to the reference image to generate the corrected version of the first image.

43. (Original) The article of claim 42 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to: determine a position offset of the first segment of the view relative to the reference segment of the view, wherein correcting for perspective distortion is based on the determined position offset

44. (Original) The article of claim 42 wherein the perimeter of the first image includes at least a first reference point and a second reference point and correcting for perspective distortion alters the shape of the perimeter of the first image by moving the first reference point relative to the second reference point.

BD 45. (Original) The article of claim 44 wherein the first and second reference points are *CDL* vertices defined by the shape of the perimeter of the first image.

46. (Original) The article of claim 45 wherein the shape of the perimeter of the first image is rectangular and correcting for perspective distortion alters the shape of the perimeter of the first image into a trapezoid.

47. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 25, wherein determining the orientation focal length and rotation angles is further based on the shape of the perimeter of the first image.

48. (Original) The article of claim 25 wherein the perimeter of the first image has the same shape as the perimeter of the reference image.
